

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GYPSUM IN JANUARY 2005

Producers mined 1.18 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in January 2005 (table 1). Output was 20% less than that of December 2004, and 13% less than that of January 2004. Synthetic gypsum production was 738,000 metric tons (t) in January 2005 (table 1), which was 4% less than that of December 2004, and 12% more than that of January 2004. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through December 2004, synthetic gypsum accounted for 8.7 Mt, or about 24%, of the 35.5 Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 416,000 t (table 2), 38% less than that of December 2004 and 21% more than that of January 2004.

Output of calcined gypsum for January (table 1) was 1.92 Mt, 4% more than that of December 2004 and 2% more than that of January 2004. Sales of board products were about 2.7 billion

square feet (248 million square meters), 6% less than that of December 2004 and slightly more than that of January 2004.

U.S. Government import and export data for January 2005 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in December 2004 were 958,000 t (table 3), 4% more than that of November 2004 and 15% more than that of December 2003. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Mexico, for December 2004 were 46,000 t, equivalent to 55 million square feet (5.1 million square meters). These imports were 1% less than that of November 2004 and 8% less than that of December 2003. Wallboard exports to 29 countries and territories in December 2004 were 7,500 t, equivalent to 9.0 million square feet (835,000 square meters). These exports were 1% more than those of November 2004 and 114% more than those of December 2003.

All percentages in this report were computed based on unrounded data.

TABLE 1  
GYPSUM SUPPLY<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	2005	2004	
	January	December	January
Crude:			
Mined <sup>4</sup>	1,180,000	1,480,000	1,350,000
Imported <sup>5</sup>	NA	958,000	761,000
Exported <sup>5</sup>	NA	14,200	13,100
Synthetic gypsum <sup>6</sup>	738,000	770,000	661,000
Total supply	NA	3,190,000	2,760,000
Calcined:			
Produced	1,920,000	1,840,000	1,880,000
Imported <sup>7</sup>	NA	246	475
Exported <sup>7</sup>	NA	28,200	13,200
Total supply	NA	1,810,000	1,860,000

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes revisions to previous months' data.

<sup>4</sup>Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

<sup>5</sup>Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

<sup>6</sup>Reported production only.

<sup>7</sup>Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2  
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2005	2004	
	January	December	January
Uncalcined: <sup>4</sup>			
Portland cement	218,000	349,000	216,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	198,000	324,000	127,000
Total	416,000	673,000	343,000
Calcined:			
Board products <sup>5</sup>	2,240,000	2,360,000	2,200,000
Plaster	12,900	13,100	12,700
Total	2,240,000	2,370,000	2,210,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) <sup>6</sup>			
Regular board	1,660,000	1,750,000	1,630,000
Type X board	767,000	823,000	769,000
Other	244,000	258,000	242,000
Total supply	2,670,000	2,830,000	2,640,000

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes revisions to previous months' data.

<sup>4</sup>Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

<sup>5</sup>Includes weight of paper and other materials.

<sup>6</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3  
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2004			2003
	December	November	January-December	January-December
Argentina	--	--	--	18
Austria	--	--	8	14
Canada	690,000	593,000	5,000,000	4,110,000
China	--	--	41,300	--
Costa Rica	--	--	53	122
Dominican Republic	24,800	6,500	149,000	67,900
France	--	15	15	--
Germany	--	1,800	1,800	--
Guatemala	--	--	--	22
Italy	--	--	26,900	11
Jamaica	21,100	--	40,400	16
Japan	--	--	3	--
Mexico	214,000	216,000	2,250,000	1,820,000
Netherlands	--	--	3	--
Peru	--	--	11	--
South Africa	7,690	--	7,690	--
Spain	--	102,000	728,000	710,000
Sweden	--	--	--	2
United Kingdom	--	--	21	97
Total	958,000	920,000	10,100,000	8,300,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption <sup>3</sup>	Production <sup>4</sup>	Imports <sup>5</sup>	Exports <sup>5</sup>
2003:				
November	2,070	1,310	766	13
December	2,120	1,300	830	17
January-December	24,400	16,300	8,300	167
2004:				
January	2,100	1,350	761	13
February	1,810	1,260	559	12
March	2,180	1,390	806	14
April	2,140	1,400	751	9
May	2,230	1,340	905	11
June	2,200	1,280	936	14
July	2,570	1,580	1,010	14
August	2,240	1,520	735	9
September	2,220	1,390	835	12
October	2,400	1,460	954	14
November	2,360	1,460	920	13
December	2,420	1,480	958	14
January-December	26,900	16,900	10,100	149
2005:				
January	NA	1,460	NA	NA

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes synthetic gypsum.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

<sup>4</sup>Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

<sup>5</sup>Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5  
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand square feet)<sup>3</sup>

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2005:											
January:											
Lath	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Veneer base	21,500	2,390	7,870	922	8,540	25	58	196	1,040	9	42,600
Sheathing	873	3,290	3,100	5,180	14,200	2,330	12,300	4,620	6,720	763	53,400
Regular gypsum board	39,500	135,000	202,000	111,000	519,000	112,000	194,000	157,000	165,000	28,200	1,660,000
Type X gypsum board	23,800	78,000	107,000	61,300	147,000	31,700	83,000	88,800	142,000	5,260	767,000
Predecorated board	235	634	1,150	418	1,210	309	1,050	275	693	46	6,010
5/16 Mobile home board	--	513	4,670	--	10,100	12,700	6,100	124	319	--	34,500
Water/moisture resistant board	4,520	18,000	14,400	6,110	25,800	4,470	10,500	8,320	13,000	3,070	108,000
Total	90,500	238,000	339,000	185,000	725,000	163,000	307,000	259,000	329,000	37,400	2,670,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

<sup>3</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.